

## **MINUTES**

### **MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 56th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

#### **COMMITTEE ON TAXATION**

**Call to Order:** By **CHAIRMAN CHASE HIBBARD**, on March 26, 1999 at 8:00 A.M., in Room 437 Capitol.

#### **ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Rep. Chase Hibbard, Chairman (R)  
Rep. Kim Gillan, Vice Chairman (D)  
Rep. Bob Story, Vice Chairman (R)  
Rep. Gary Beck (D)  
Rep. Rick Dale (R)  
Rep. Bob Davies (R)  
Rep. Ron Erickson (D)  
Rep. Daniel Fuchs (R)  
Rep. Mary Anne Guggenheim (D)  
Rep. Marian Hanson (R)  
Rep. Hal Harper (D)  
Rep. Dan Harrington (D)  
Rep. John L. Holden (R)  
Rep. Verdell Jackson (R)  
Rep. Scott J. Orr (R)  
Rep. Bob Raney (D)  
Rep. Bill Rehbein (R)  
Rep. Sam Rose (R)  
Rep. Trudi Schmidt (D)  
Rep. Roger Somerville (R)

**Members Excused:** None.

**Members Absent:** None.

**Staff Present:** Donna Grace, Committee Secretary  
Jeff Martin, Legislative Branch

**Please Note:** These are summary minutes. Testimony and discussion are paraphrased and condensed.

**Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing(s) & Date(s) Posted:

SB 264 - 3/22/1999

SB 500 - 3/22/1999

SB 308 - 3/22/1999

Executive Action:

SB 308 - Concur

HB 174 - Do Pass as Amended

**HEARING ON SB 264**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

Sen. Pete Ekegren, Senate District 44

*{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 1.4}*

**Proponents' Testimony:**

Adam Dahlman, Teton County Commissioner

*{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 6.8}*

Gordon Morris, Montana Association of Counties

*{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 11.7}*

**Opponents' Testimony:**

Ross Fitzgerald, Power Volunteer Fire Company

*{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 21.2}*

Bob Stephens

*{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 27.2}*

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

*{Tape : 1; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 0.1}*

**Closing by Sponsor:**

*{Tape : 1; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 19}*

HEARING ON SB 308

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

Rep. John Bohlinger, Senate District 7  
{Tape : 1; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 22.6}

Proponents' Testimony:

Rod Sundsted, Montana University System **EXHIBIT**(tah68a01)  
{Tape : 1; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 27.6}

Jeff Miller, Department of Revenue  
{Tape : 2; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 2.3}

Opponents' Testimony:

None.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

{Tape : 2; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 3}

Closing by Sponsor:

{Tape : 2; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 9.4}

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 308

Motion/Vote:

Rep. Erickson MOVED to CONCUR. On a voice vote, the **MOTION**  
PASSED, unanimously.  
{Tape : 2; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 12}

HEARING ON SB 500

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

Sen. Dale Berry, Senate District 30 **EXHIBIT**(tah68a02)  
{Tape : 2; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 13.5}

Proponents' Testimony:

John Semple

{Tape : 2; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 18.2}

Opponents' Testimony:

None.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

{Tape : 2; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 19.9}

Closing by Sponsor:

{Tape : 2; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 4.7}

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 174

Motion/Vote:

Rep. Hibbard MOVED to REMOVE HB 174 FROM THE TABLE. The MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

{Tape : 2; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 7.2}

Motion:

Rep. Hibard MOVED to ADOPT AMENDMENTS. **EXHIBIT**(tah68a03)

Discussion:

Neal Pohlman explained the WET Tax. **EXHIBIT**(tah68a04)

{Tape : 2; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 18.5}

Mary Bryson, Director, Department of Revenue, explained the fiscal note. **EXHIBIT**(tah68a05)

{Tape : 3; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 22.1}

Vote:

The MOTION PASSED unanimously.

{Tape : 3; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 10}

Motion:

Rep. Harrington MOVED to ADOPT AMENDMENTS. **EXHIBIT**(tah68a06)

{Tape : 3; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 10.4}

**Discussion:**

***{Tape : 3; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 12.1}***

**Vote:**

On a voice vote, the **MOTION PASSED, 18 - 2.** Rehbein and Holden voting no.

**Discussion:**

***{Tape : 4; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 1.4}***

**Motion:**

**Rep. Erickson MOVED** a conceptual amendment which would increase the rate per KWH under the wholesale energy transmission tax.

***{Tape : 4; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 10.6}***

**Vote:**

On a voice vote, the **MOTION FAILED, 18 - 2.** Erickson and Guggenheim voting yes.

***{Tape : 4; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 18.8}***

**Motion/Vote:**

**Rep. Hibbard MOVED** that HB 174 AS AMENDED DO PASS. The **MOTION PASSED** unanimously.

Adjourn.

***{Tape : 4; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 22}***

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 11:45 P.M.

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REP. CHASE HIBBARD, Chairman

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DONNA GRACE, Secretary

CH/DG

**EXHIBIT** (tah68aad)